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DIRECTORATE OF
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

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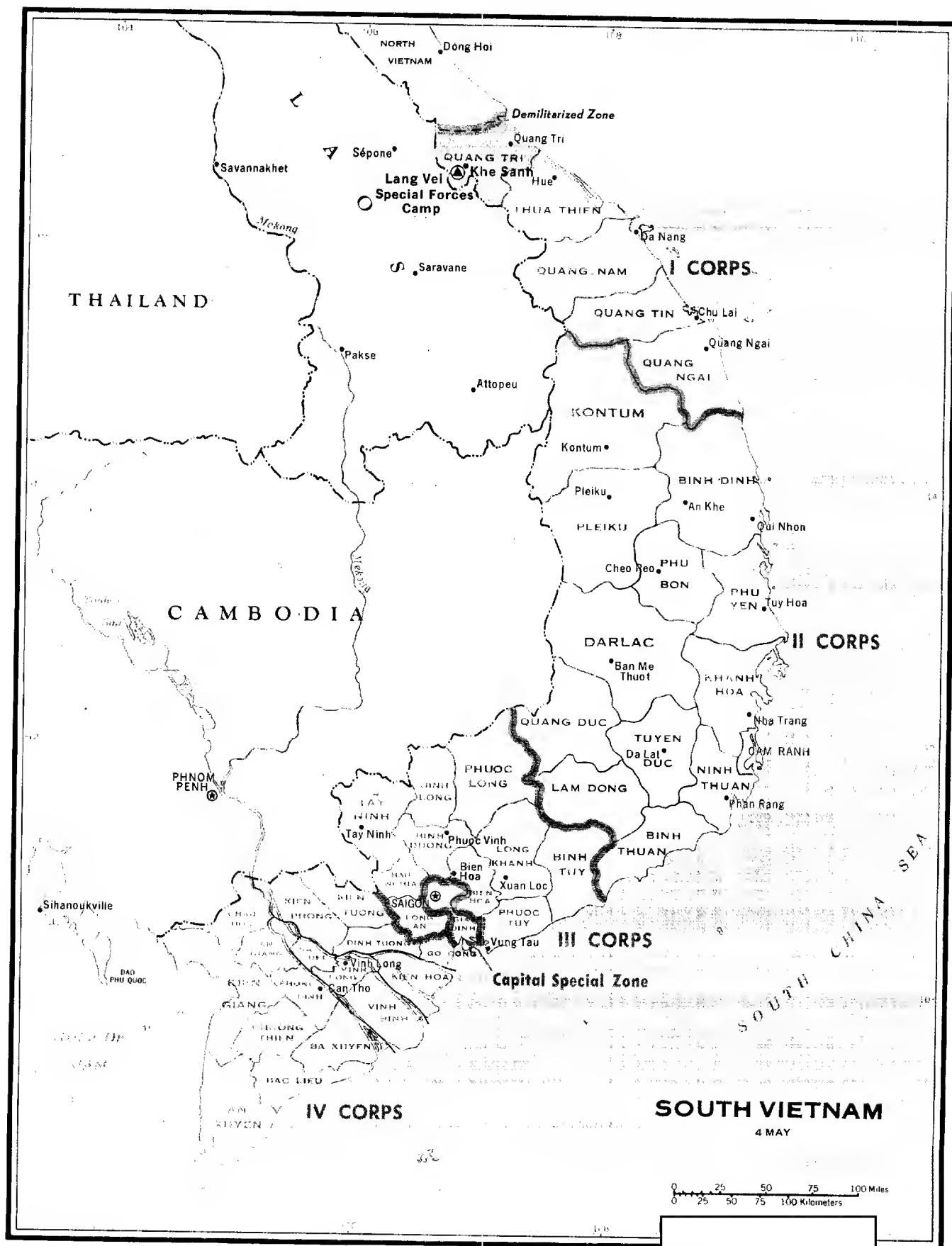
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: The heavy fighting of recent days for control of three strategic hills northwest of Khe Sanh has temporarily subsided, although North Vietnamese Army (NVA) forces continue to apply pressure against allied positions in the area.

Two US Marine battalions are pressing the search for the remnants of an estimated 2,500-man NVA force which has been involved in this ten-day-long campaign. According to US officials, a total of 543 enemy dead has been confirmed by body count. US casualties have risen to 132 killed and 371 wounded.

An isolated Special Forces camp at Lang Vei, four miles southwest of Khe Sanh, came under heavy attack early on 4 May. More than 250 mortar rounds were fired at the garrison, followed by a battalion-size assault. Friendly casualties stand at 19 killed (two US) and 42 wounded (five US); known enemy losses are six killed.

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South Korea: Pak Chong-hui's victory in the presidential election on 3 May assures a continuation of moderate leadership concentrating on economic improvement.

The large margin Pak achieved over the same opponent he narrowly defeated four years ago is certain to bolster his self-confidence. This in turn will strengthen his hand in controlling the factional infighting that has plagued his Democratic Republican Party.

The vote, with its implied endorsement of Pak's policies on such controversial issues as the settlement with Japan and the commitment of troops to Vietnam, will encourage the President to continue his efforts to expand South Korea's international role.

The loose bonds that united the opposition during the presidential race will tend to dissolve as each faction competes for seats in the National Assembly election to be held in early June. Over the longer term, however, the opposition may realize that unity is necessary if a viable alternative to the party in power is to be provided.

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USSR: The Soviet Union has shipped its primary space booster to France for display in the Paris Air Show beginning on 26 May.

Western observers have never before been permitted to view this equipment,

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The rocket, based on the first-generation Soviet ICBM, continues to be used with various upper stages to launch most Soviet spacecraft, including all manned capsules, reconnaissance satellites, and lunar and deep-space probes.

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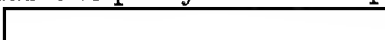
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NOTES



India: The Congress Party faces a major test in tomorrow's presidential election. Prime Minister Gandhi's position within her party is also at stake, since she pushed through the nomination of its candidate--the Muslim incumbent vice president, Zakir Husain--against the wishes of party president Kamaraj. Husain's prospects for defeating the major opposition candidate, former chief justice Rao, are uncertain. Communal and regional factors could combine with the weighted secret balloting by national and state legislators to blur the party lines and produce an opposition victory. 

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The United States Intelligence Board on 4 May 1967
approved the following national intelligence estimates:

NIE 73-67, "South Africa"

SNIE 84-67, "Panama"

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